

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 191817  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR:SOV:JGHUFF:REH  
APPROVED BY P - DNEWSOM  
S/S-O - SVALERGA  
EUR/SOV - WTSHINN  
L - LMARKS  
S/MS - MSHULMAN  
EUR - GVEST  
H - JBATWOOD

-----008630 290003Z /13

O 282319Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 191817

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PINR, UR, US

SUBJECT:INVESTIGATION BY SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS  
INTO DEATH OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

1. HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS, CHAIRED BY LOUIS STOKES (D - OHIO), HAS FORMALLY REQUESTED DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH ITS CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY. COMMITTEE HAS BEEN MADE AWARE OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO LEE HARVEY OSWALD'S STAY IN THE SOVIET UNION WHICH IT BELIEVES ARE IN THE HANDS OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND WHICH THE WARREN COMMISSION WAS NOT AWARE OF AT THE TIME OF ITS PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 191817

2. ON JUNE 1, CONGRESSMAN ROBERT W. EDGAR (D - PA) MET WITH MINISTER COUNSELOR VASEV OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY HERE AND MADE A COMMITTEE REQUEST FOR SOVIET DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION WHICH COULD SHED FURTHER LIGHT ON OSWALD'S ASSOCIATES WHILE IN THE SOVIET UNION AND ON HIS MOTIVE FOR THE ASSASSINATION. MANY OF THESE DOCUMENTS ARE BELIEVED BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE TO BE KGB TELEPHONIC, MAIL AND NEIGHBORHOOD

SURVEILLANCE REPORTS CONCERNING OSWALD.

3. DURING THE MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN EDGAR, VASEV NOTED THAT COMMITTEE REQUEST PRESENTED PROBLEMS BUT THAT HE WOULD ASK FOR INSTRUCTIONS FROM MOSCOW BEFORE PROVIDING A FORMAL RESPONSE. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, VASEV NOTED THAT COMMITTEE REQUEST COULD LEAD TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SOVIET UNION'S RELATIONSHIP WITH OSWALD WHICH COULD DISHONOR THE USSR BY INSINUATION.

4. UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS NEWSOM HAS INFORMED SELECT COMMITTEE THAT DEPARTMENT'S WISHES TO COOPERATE WITH COMMITTEE'S EFFORTS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY BY TRACING FURTHER DETAILS OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD'S STAY IN THE SOVIET UNION. EMBASSY SHOULD, EARLY NEXT WEEK, MAKE APPROACH TO APPROPRIATE SOVIET AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF COMMITTEE REQUEST TO VASEV FOR DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION CONCERNING OSWALD. EMBASSY SHOULD NOTE OUR APPRECIATION FOR SOVIET COOPERATION AT THE TIME OF THE WARREN COMMISSION. YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT SELECT COMMITTEE DOES NOT INTEND TO IMPLY BY ITS REQUEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION IS IMPLICATED IN ANY WAY IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. EMBASSY SHOULD ASK THE SOVIETS TO INDICATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHETHER THEY WILL BE IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 191817

5. EMBASSY DEMARCHE AND ANY INITIAL SOVIET REACTION SHOULD BE REPORTED IN DETAIL. ONE WEEK AFTER INITIAL APPROACH, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REPORT AGAIN WHETHER THERE HAS BEEN ANY SOVIET RESPONSE AND TO GIVE ITS ASSESSMENT AT THAT TIME OF THE LIKELIHOOD OF ANY RESPONSE.

6. DEPARTMENT HAS BY AGREEING TO MAKE APPROACH FORESTALLED FOR THE PRESENT MOVE FOR CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION ASKING THAT DEPARTMENT SECURE INFORMATION. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, COMMITTEES, DEATHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE191817  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** SOV:JGHUFF:REH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X3  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780311-0034  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t1978077/aaaaafyi.tel  
**Line Count:** 104  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 984d0477-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2038295  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INVESTIGATION BY SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS INTO DEATH OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY  
**TAGS:** PINR, UR, US  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/984d0477-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014